

Rowan Cottage Nurture Group



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Handbook

INTRODUCTION

Hello and welcome to Rowan Cottage. We are an in school Resource based at Beckford Primary School to help support your child. The staff at Rowan Cottage are Debbie Smith, Nurture Teacher and Barbara Barrett, Nurture Assistant (Early Years). During your time with us you will get to know them well.

Here is where your child will be coming:



WHAT IS A NURTURE GROUP?

A Nurture Group:

- is a small supportive class of up to 10 children
- provides a secure predictable setting, catering for the different developmental needs of each pupil
- is staffed by two adults, a teacher and an early years' assistant
- is where pupils attend regularly for a substantial part of the school week while remaining on their mainstream class roll
- focuses on emotional and social development to enable academic progress
- works towards a child's successful resettlement in the mainstream class within a maximum of 5 terms.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUR CHILD SECURES A PLACE AT ROWAN COTTAGE?

Firstly you will be invited along with your child and school representative for a visit to see Rowan Cottage, see the homely setting and meet our staff. At this time we will talk to you about what will happen more fully and answer any questions you may have.

PLACEMENT

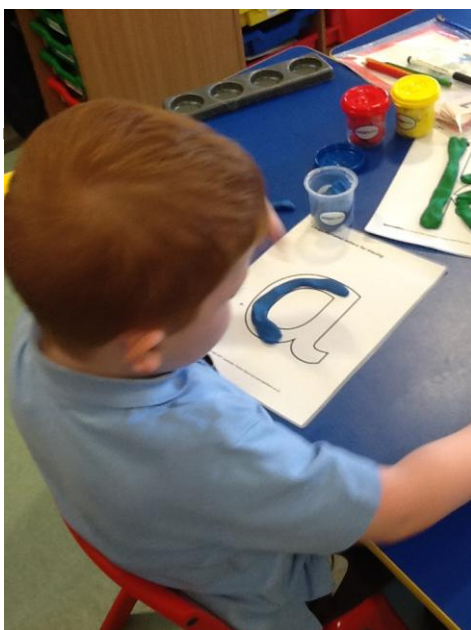
Children who attend Rowan Cottage come for 5 morning sessions. Your child will return to their own school and work along with their class for the rest of the day. Even though your child may access Rowan Cottage they are still a pupil at their own school.

How will your child travel?

Transport is provided by South Lanarkshire Council and is by taxi with an accompanying escort. Nurture staff will arrange taxi pick-up and be responsible for managing this while your child attends Rowan Cottage.

During your child's time with us, he/she must feel a sense of 'belonging' to the mainstream class. To reinforce this, taxi arrangements will be to and from school NOT home. This allows our children to begin and finish each day with their classmates and to maintain their relationship with their class teacher.

If your child is unwell or unable to attend, please contact both the school and Rowan Cottage directly so that taxis can be cancelled.



Working together

When your child has started with us, we will contact you to arrange a home visit. This gives us a chance to have a chat about how things are developing and any concerns.

We run parent and child sessions, such as craft activities and fun days where you come along and support your child in their learning and have some fun with them too.

We maintain regular contact with your child's school, class teachers and all other agencies involved with your child's wellbeing.

Rowan Cottage operates an 'Open Door' policy for families and should you wish to talk, at any time, with Mrs. Smith or Mrs. Barrett, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Throughout the placement, you will be invited to regular meetings to review and discuss your child's progress.



Activities in Rowan Cottage

At Rowan Cottage children arrive at around 9.30am. Each child is responsible for hanging up their coat and bag, brushing their teeth and then choosing their breakfast.

The children get the opportunity to access specially planned activities around the room. These include language and maths tasks, structured play opportunities and other curricular based activities relevant to their stage of development.



At breakfast time the children take turns to set the table and help prepare food for the rest of the group. Sometimes a child is allowed to invite a special guest. It is also a very sociable time when we share news and give each other advice and support about any worries we may have.

At Rowan Cottage all the children get the opportunity to experience playtime with the rest of the school. This is supervised by nurture staff.

At Rowan Cottage, we believe in the importance of our children accessing a wide range of experiences and so opportunities are provided for activities/outings in the community. These may include, shopping at the supermarket, walks in the park and swimming/soft play/visits whenever possible. You will be asked to sign a form when you accompany your child on the initial visit. This grants permission for any outings and for photographs to be taken.

When your child is ready to be resettled back into class, their time spent in their own class will gradually increase, in consultation with staff.



Useful contacts and information

Miss Jacqueline Wallace Headteacher

Mrs. Debbie Smith Nurture Teacher

Mrs. Barbara Barrett Early Years' Worker (Nurture)

Telephone number

01698 423200 - please phone if you can between 9/9.30am or alternatively leave a message with office staff and we will get back to you as soon as we can.

Address

Rowan Cottage
Beckford Primary School
Auchinraith Avenue
Hamilton, ML3 0JQ

Useful information for staff

What happens after referral to Nurture Forum?

Nurture staff will contact the school and arrange a visit to see pupil and speak to staff. At this time, the closest person/people working with the child will complete a Boxall Profile. This is not a form of assessment it is used by nurture staff to aid their planning. In addition, an overview of where the child is in terms of CfE will be completed.

Correspondence

Nurture staff are happy to hear from you at any time. We currently use a daily diary which gives a record of the child's day completed by the class teacher and nurture group staff. If you have any other information or concerns you wish to share with us, please feel free to write us a note or contact us by phone;

- 01698 423200

Reviews

These will take place throughout the child's time with us. These will usually take place at Rowan Cottage.